Slipback

Slipback is a radio audio drama based on the long-running British science fiction television series *Doctor Who*, produced by the BBC and first broadcast in six episodes on BBC Radio 4 from 25 July to 8 August 1985, as part of a children's magazine show called *Pirate Radio Four*. It was later released on cassette and CD, most recently by BBC Audio and free with the 27

April 2010 edition of *The Daily Telegraph* newspaper via WHSmith.

Slipback

Doctor Who **radio play**

Cover of the CD release

Cast

Doctor

- Colin Baker (Sixth Doctor)

Companion

- Nicola Bryant (Peri Brown)

Others

- Computer/Inner Voice — Jane Carr
- Shellingbourne Grant — Jon Glover

- Bates/Snatch — Nick Revell
- Mutant/Stewart — Alan Thompson
- Slarn — Valentine Dyall
- Seedle — Ron Pember

Production	
Written by	Eric Saward
Produced by	Paul Spencer
Executive producer(s)	Jonathan James-Moore
Production code	N/A
Series	N/A (aired between Series 22 and 23)
Running time	6 episodes, 10 minutes each

First broadcast	25 July–8 August 1985

Synopsis

The Sixth Doctor and Peri arrive on a mysterious space liner, where intergalactic policemen are investigating art thefts, a computer is suffering from a split personality and the Captain's disease threatens every living thing on the ship…

Production

Slipback was broadcast on BBC Radio 4, four months after the final episode of *Doctor Who*'s twenty-second season,

during the programme's enforced hiatus, the next season not airing for another a year and a half. It was the first *Doctor Who* serial produced as a radio play (an earlier audio production, *The Pescatons*, was released as a story record). No further radio productions were mounted until the mid-1990s when Jon Pertwee reprised his role as the Third Doctor in two productions, *The Paradise of Death* and *The Ghosts of N-Space*.

Writing

The story was written by series script writer Eric Saward, whose writing credits

include *The Visitation*, *Earthshock*, *Resurrection of the Daleks* and *Revelation of the Daleks*.

Cast note

Valentine Dyall played the Black Guardian in the television series. Dyall died on 24 June 1985, just 14 days after *Slipback* was recorded, and a month before *Slipback* aired.

In print

Slipback	
Author	Eric Saward
Cover artist	Paul Mark Tams
Series	*Doctor Who* book: Target novelisations
Publisher	Target Books
Publication date	21 August 1986 (Hardback) 15 January 1987 (Paperback)
Pages	144
ISBN	0-426-20263-5

A novelisation by Eric Saward was published by Target Books in April 1986, the first novelisation of a non-televised *Doctor Who* story. Saward's novelisation expands on the radio play greatly, with an extensive prologue running about a third of the book before the Doctor appears and the adaptation of the radio play storyline begins.

Audio releases

Slipback was released on 7 November 1988 on a double audio cassette along with the 1978 LP version of *Genesis of the Daleks*.[1] It was subsequently released as a standalone CD on 8 January 2001.[2]

References

1. *"Genesis of the Daleks & Slipback" (http://www.timelash.com/tardis/display.asp?1)* . *Timelash - The TARDIS Library. Retrieved 11 April 2013.*
2. *"Slipback" (http://www.timelash.com/tardis/display.asp?24)* . *Timelash - The TARDIS Library. Retrieved 11 April 2013.*

External links

Target novelisation

- On Target — *Slipback* (https://web.archive.org/web/20020105150951/http://ww

w.personal.leeds.ac.uk/~ecl6nb/OnTarget/1986/slipback/86slipba.htm)

- The Cloister Library - *Slipback* (https://archive.today/20130704044720/http://www.magnetopia.org/cloisterlibrary/slipback.htm)

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